Tribunals for detection of Bangladeshis in Assam

1706. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Supreme Court has quashed Government notification that put the onus of proving an illegal migrant into the country, solely on the complainant, and has directed the Centre to constitute sufficient number of Tribunals within four months, to detect infiltration of thousands of Bangladeshis into Assam;

(b) if so, what steps Centre have taken to implement the directive of the Supreme Court;

(c) if so, what is the total number of Tribunals constituted by the Centre in this regard; and

(d) whether the Supreme Court had also struck down as "unconstitutional" the Illegal Migration Detection by Tribunal Act in July, 2005?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) The Supreme Court of India *vide* their judgment dated 5.12.2006 has quashed the Foreigners (Tribunals for Assam) Order dated 10.2.2006.

(b) and (c) The Government had approved the proposal of the Government of Assam in December, 2005 for establishing of additional 21 Foreigners Tribunals (in addition to 11 existing Tribunals) in the State of Assam. As per information given by the State Government, 27 Tribunals are already functional.

(d) The Supreme Court of India *vide* their judgement dated 12.7.2005 had struck down the Illegal Migrants (Determination by Tribunals) Act 1983.

Fencing in border areas

†1707. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of border areas in the country where fencing has been done in view of the security;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.